

IT LOOKS FANCY, BUT
THIS BEEF ROAST
REQUIRES LITTLE
WORK {page 22}



CLOSET NERD THERON REVEALS DETAILS OF AWKWARD YOUTH

{page 16}



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Wednesday, December
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Belgium.



► Police officers guard the street following a grenade attack in the city center of Liege, Belgium yesterday.

ERMINDO ARMINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grenade attack rocks Belgian city

Reports say an unidentified man threw up to four live hand grenades at a bus stop, killing himself and four others, and wounding many other people in the crowded square. More coverage, page 6.

Gatineau cops arrest their own

- Investigation launched after reports of irregularities in the handling of evidence
- Officer has yet to be charged formally

Gatineau police said they arrested one of the force's officers yesterday following an internal investigation into allegations of tampering and disappearance of evidence.

Officers from the Sûreté du Québec participated in the arrest of a 44-year-old police officer at around 8:40 a.m. yesterday at the request of Gatineau police.

Police did not identify the officer.

Police spokesperson Mariane Leduc said the officer was interviewed and released from custody and the investigation is ongoing.

In March, the force's professional-standards division was informed of irregularities in the

"There's still time and effort to put into the investigation before it goes to court and we can release the name."

GATINEAU POLICE SPOKESPERSON
MARIANE LEDUC

handling of evidence in a police operation.

Quebec's public-security ministry was informed and a criminal investigation commenced.

Police said they would release the name of the officer once the charge has been formally filed and authorized by Quebec's criminal-prosecutions director.

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Popular radio host 'woke up the city for 19 years,' says on-air successor

Former Majic 100 morning host Kevin Nelson, 52, died yesterday morning after a lengthy battle with liver disease.

"Kevin Nelson was a very talented and extraordinarily well-liked morning radio announcer," said Richard Grey, vice-presi-

dent and general manager of Majic 100 and its Bell Media affiliates in Ottawa.

Nelson was on sick leave for 15 months before he died, said Grey.

"Stuntman" Stu Schwartz took over the morning-host position, and remembered being

awed by Nelson's "huge legion of fans."

"It's difficult to walk into a show that someone else commanded for 19 years," he said.

Schwartz remembered Nelson as "one joke after another."

"Kevin always had a

one-liner in the hallway," said Schwartz.

He was the first voice on Majic 100 when the station launched on Aug. 12, 1991, and he introduced the station's first song, Do You Believe in Magic.

● JESSICA SMITH



► Kevin Nelson

CONTRIBUTED

Carleton team helps narrow search for 'God particle'

► Particle is only piece missing in theoretical model describing all fundamental processes of nature, scientists say ► University's research team has been analyzing LHC data



JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA

A research team at Carleton University helped make an important discovery about the "God particle."

Fifteen researchers from Carleton were among the 3,000 scientists from around the world who participated in the ATLAS Higgs boson particle experiment, said physics professor Gerald Oakham.

"This Higgs boson, it's like the holy grail of particle physics," said professor Gerald Oakham. "The field it generates interacts with all the other particles and gives them their mass."

That characteristic led physicist Leon Lederman to nickname it the "God Particle," he said.

Scientists are searching for the particle and trying to prove its existence using the Large Hadron Collider at European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland.

CERN announced yesterday two experiments were able to rule out most possible masses of the particle, saying "tantalizing hints have been seen by both experiments in this mass region, but these are not yet strong enough to claim a discovery."

Physicists at Carleton built and calibrated detector components used in the experiments. The group has also been analyzing that data produced by the Large Hadron Collider, including some that proved key to CERN's announcement, said Oakham.

► A CERN technician straddles a bike next to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) which is housed in 27-kilometre tunnel at the European particle physics laboratory near Geneva. For more on the announcement about the search for the Higgs boson, see page 14.



CONTRIBUTED



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On the web at
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Transit riders in the U.K. are doing their best to keep pace with their Canadian counterparts' bizarre behaviour. Video at metronews.ca

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Winterlude prepared for weather woes

► Backup plans in place for melting
► Winterlude 2012 will run Feb. 3 to Feb. 20 in Ottawa and Gatineau



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

The National Capital Commission (NCC) says it has a contingency plan in place even if the mild weather sticks around once the 34th edition of Winterlude gets into gear in early February.

"There are always contingency plans," said NCC CEO Marie Lemay at the announcement yesterday. "Every year we have to plan for the melting, so that's included in our plan."

Part of that plan includes indoor programming, such as the American Express Winterlude opening at the Canadian Museum of Civilization on Feb. 3. Winterlude will present

programming to mark the bicentennial of the War of 1812 with IMAX presentations and a gourmet dinner by celebrity chef Lynn Crawford.

There will also be non-weather-dependent activities for visitors, such as an outdoor dance party hosted by Sub-Zero Music Series at Rogers Crystal Globe in Confederation Park.

"There's going to be lots for people to do, no matter what the weather's like," said Lemay.

Mayor Jim Watson said that if the Rideau Canal is affected by inclement weather, Ottawa's new Rink of Dreams can serve as a backup. Slated to open later this month, the refrigerated rink will remain operational for the winter season.



► NCC CEO Marie Lemay, right, announced the programming lineup for the 2012 Winterlude festival with Gatineau Mayor Marc Bureau, second from left, and Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, third from left, at the Chateau Laurier yesterday.

Fashion Week embraces Winterlude

JOE LOFARO/METRO



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA

For the first time, Ottawa Fashion Week (OFW) is officially partnering with Winterlude in February and will stage its fashion showcase at a new venue in the downtown Westin Hotel.

Visitors can warm up to some winter fashions as models showcase collec-

tions for the fall and winter seasons inside the hotel ballroom from Feb. 17 to 19.

Winterlude attracts more than half a million visitors to the Ottawa-Gatineau region during the three-weekend-long festival, so OFW creative director Bruno Racine said it was a smart idea to host OFW around the

same time. He said more than half of the 5,000 people in attendance each year at OFW are from out of town.

"They'll see what Winterlude is all about at the same time because for a lot of them, it's their first time in Ottawa," said Racine. "They can say, 'Wow, there's something going on in Ottawa.'"

Designers from Toronto, New York and London are expected to attend the show.

Local designers who are creating a buzz in other parts of the world are going to be showcased as well.

"I'm excited about our local designers (who've) been growing through this."

Lineup takes shape

While organizers are still finalizing their February 2012 lineup, Bruno Racine said guests can expect to see several local designers showcase their fall and winter collections, including:

► Emilia Torabi
► Jana Hanzel
► David McCaffrey
► Stacey Bafi-Yeboah
► Rachel Sinx



► OFW creative director
Bruno Racine

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Gunman kills Belgian shoppers

► Hundreds flee as grenades lobbed into market, bullets fired
► Attacker found dead at scene

Summoned for questioning by Belgian police, a man with a history of weapons and drug offences left home armed with hand grenades, a revolver and an assault rifle. Stopping at a central square filled with holiday shoppers, he lobbed three grenades into the crowd, then opened fire.

Four people were killed, including an 18-month-old toddler, and 122 were wounded in the assault yesterday that brought tragedy to the pre-Christmas season of students revelling in exam results and preschoolers enchanted by brightly lit trees and holiday stalls.

Authorities said the shooter also died.

The midday attack in the eastern Belgian city of Liege sent hundreds of panicked shoppers stampeding down the cobbled streets of the old city, fleeing explosions and bullets.

Belgian authorities identified the shooter as Nor-

Recent attacks

► In Italy yesterday, a man opened fire in an outdoor market in Florence, killing two vendors from Senegal and wounding three other immigrants before killing himself. Investigators identified the attacker as 50-year-old Gianluca Casseri, and RAI state TV said he was known to police for having participated in racist marches by an extreme right-wing group.

► In Norway last July, far-right extremist Anders Behring Breivik went on a bomb and shooting spree that killed 77 people around Oslo.

dine Amrani, a 33-year-old Liege resident who had done jail time for offences involving guns and drugs, and had been called in for questioning in a sexual abuse case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► Emergency vehicles are parked in front of the court of justice following a grenade attack in the city centre of Liege, Belgium, yesterday.



ERMINDO ARMINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brother made up story: Crown

A Montreal family accused of killing three children concocted a story that could help absolve them of guilt and told a surviving child to go along with it — but he slipped up, prosecutors alleged in court yesterday.

Mohammad Shafia, 58,

his wife Tooba Yahya, 42, and their son Hamed, 20, have told police that the night of the deaths, their eldest daughter came into their motel room to borrow the car keys.

The Crown alleges the women were killed before

the family checked into the motel.

Another brother was under cross-examination yesterday, and Crown attorney Gerard Laarhuis hammered him about his statement to police that Zainab came to the motel room that night

to borrow his cellphone. Laarhuis suggested that never happened, and that inconsistent statements to police that it might have been his mother who wanted to borrow his phone, point to a mistake on his part. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inmate takes female prison worker hostage

Negotiations continued throughout the day yesterday to free a corrections employee who was taken hostage by an inmate at a federal prison in Quebec's Eastern Townships.

The inmate barricaded

himself in a room in the Cowansville penitentiary, locking himself there with the worker who was in the area with him.

A negotiating team was called in soon after the incident began, around 10:45 a.m., and talks were ongoing throughout the day without any resolution by press deadline. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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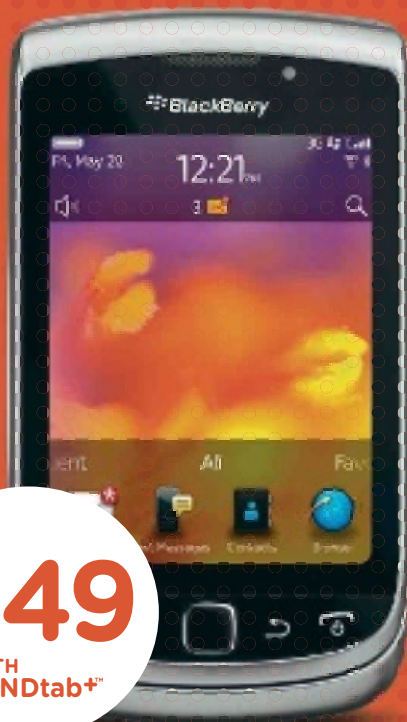
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Kennedy: Expose abusers

► Ex-NHLer tells U.S. lawmakers to end code of silence ► People who suspect something wrong must act on their 'gut feelings,' he says

Sheldon Kennedy stepped into Capitol Hill spotlight yesterday, urging U.S. lawmakers to "empower" anyone who suspects children are being sexually abused.

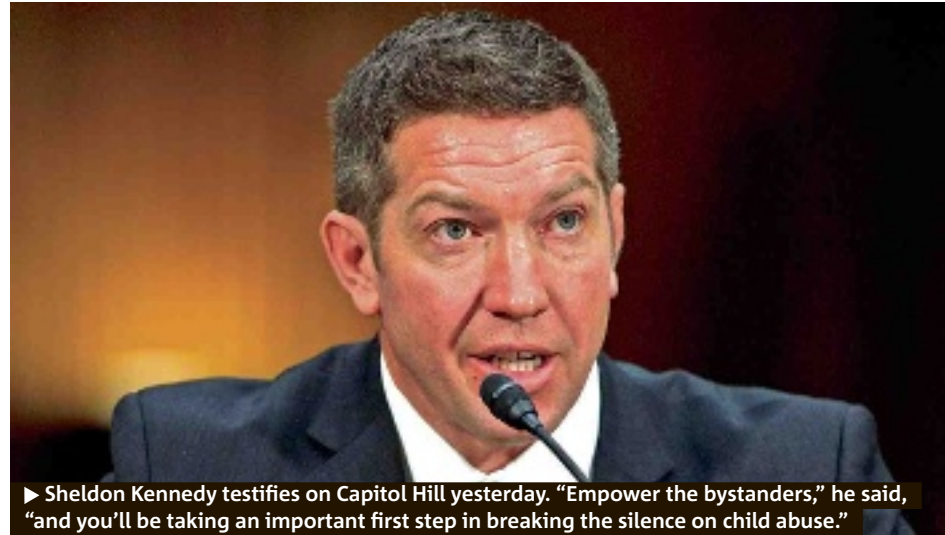
Under the glare of TV cameras, the former NHL player matter-of-factly told of the ordeal he suffered at the hands of his once-trusted hockey coach, Graham James.

"My abuser was International Hockey Man of the Year," Kennedy, 42, told the Senate hearing examining child abuse laws.

"In Canada, that gave him almost God-like status. Sound familiar?"

"The kids — and often their parents too — looked up to him as a hero."

"This was someone who could make their dreams come true and he used



► Sheldon Kennedy testifies on Capitol Hill yesterday. "Empower the bystanders," he said, "and you'll be taking an important first step in breaking the silence on child abuse."

that trust to hurt them."

Pedophiles count on the fact that most people have trouble believing trusted adults in their fields — coaches, teachers, priests — would ever abuse chil-

dren, Kennedy added.

James was convicted of some 350 sexual-abuse charges and served three and a half years in prison. He was quietly pardoned in 2007 — touching off a

national firestorm.

Last week, James pleaded guilty to fresh allegations of sexual assault. He will be sentenced in February.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sandusky says he'll fight to the end in sex-abuse case

Former Penn State assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky is vowing, in his lawyer's words, to "fight to the death" in his child molestation case.

But Sandusky opted against a preliminary hearing yesterday, sparing his accusers from making their claims in a packed courtroom.

Sandusky's lawyer, Joseph Amendola, said: "There will be no plea negotiations."

The credibility of the witnesses would be a key issue. He said he believed some of the young men may have trumped up their claims and others may



► Sandusky

come forward in a bid for monetary gain.

Sandusky, 67, is charged with more than 50 counts that accuse him of sexually abusing 10 boys over the span of 12 years.

He has denied the allegations, which led to the departures of longtime Penn State football coach Joe Paterno and the university president.

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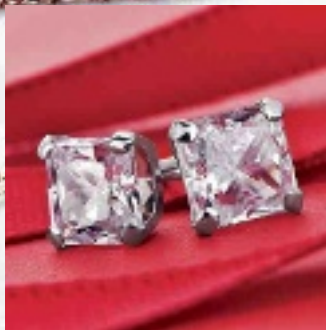


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Gingerbread. You can be the 'icing'



► Look who's in our house: From left, Cathy Santos (BD), Maria Luciano, Nicole Druken, Annie Skelding, Caitlin Holdbrook (BD), Eva Baginska (BD) and Jillian Lewis (UNICEF Canada).

DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

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Facebook 'likes' suicide prevention

► Launches service to improve users' safety

Facebook is making it easier for people who express suicidal thoughts on the social networking site to get help.

A program launching yesterday enables users to instantly connect with a crisis counsellor through Facebook's "chat" messaging system.

The service is the latest tool from Facebook aimed at improving safety on its site, which has more than 800 million users. Earlier this year, Facebook announced changes to how users report bullying, offensive content and fake profiles.

"One of the big goals here is to get the person in distress into the right help as soon as possible," Fred Wolens, public policy man-

ager at Facebook, told The Associated Press.

Nearly 100 Americans die by suicide every day, and 36,035 a year, according to U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin's office.

Google and Yahoo have long provided the phone number to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline as the first result when someone searches for "suicide" using their sites. Through email, Facebook also directed users to the hotline or encouraged friends to call law enforcement if they perceived someone was about to do harm.

The new service goes a step further by enabling an instant chat session that experts say can make all the difference with some-

one seeking help.

"The science shows that people experience reductions in suicidal thinking when there is quick intervention," said Lidia Bernik, associate project director of Lifeline. "We've heard from many people who say they want to talk to someone but don't want to call. Instant message is perfect for that."

How the service works is if a friend spots a suicidal thought on someone's page, he can report it to Facebook by clicking a link next to the comment. Facebook then sends an email to the person who posted the suicidal comment encouraging them to call the hotline or click on a link to begin a confidential chat.

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Canadian debt up while income down

► Household debt has risen about twice the rate of income: StatsCan

Canadians keep taking on more debt even as they get poorer, a new Statistics Canada report shows.

Average household debt hit a new record high of almost 153 per cent to disposable income in the third quarter, a sizable jump from 150.7 per cent the previous quarter, the agency reported yesterday.

As well, household net worth declined by 2.1 per cent to \$180,100 from \$184,700, the sharpest drop in almost three years as the value of pensions and stock investments declined.

The report came a day after Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney again warned about the dangers

of household debt poses to the economy going forward. Canadians are more indebted now than the Americans and British, Carney noted, saying that they need to move to bring debt accumulation in line with income growth.

But analysts cautioned against taking too dark a view over household finances. "It's not black and white," said Benjamin Tal, a senior economist with CIBC World Markets. Most debt accumulation is from mortgages, and unlike the U.S. before the sub-prime fiasco, the segment of home buyers considered "marginal" in Canada is very small.

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it, such as balances on credit cards, lines of credit and term loans are slowing down or even falling, Tal added. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Time. Out



► A shopper takes a rest with purchases at Northpark Mall in Ridgeland, Miss., on Nov. 25.

VICKIE D. KING/THE CLARION-LEDGER, FILE PHOTO

U.S. retail sales keep rising

Americans spent more on autos, furniture and clothing last month as retail sales rose for the sixth straight month.

NDP accuses insurers of punishing the poor

Ontario's NDP accused auto insurance companies of charging lower-income drivers higher premiums because of their neighbourhoods, but the industry dismissed the claim yesterday.

Researchers, using the same driver profile, were quoted car insurance rates ranging from \$2,517 in Toronto's low-income Jane-Finch area to less than half that, \$1,153, if the driver lived in the city's upscale Lawrence Park area.

"There's no fairness. You shouldn't be judged by who your neighbours are. You should be judged by your driving record," said NDP Leader Andrea Horwath.

The Insurance Bureau of Canada said premiums are based on the history of claims in the area, a drivers' record and other factors. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

McDonald's lobbies U.S. on a whole whack of things

McDonald's Corp. spent \$460,000 lobbying the U.S. federal government in the third quarter, on issues including immigration, menu labelling and debit card fees.

That amount represented a 48 per cent increase from the same period a year

ago, when it spent \$310,000 on federal lobbying costs, according to disclosure reports filed with the House of Representatives. It was also up from the second quarter, when it spent \$370,000.

The world's biggest burger chain lobbied Congress, the White House, the De-

partment of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services on the sweeping health-care changes that were signed into law in March 2010.

The new health-care rules will require more companies to offer health-care insurance to employ-



► A McDonald's employee in San Francisco, Calif.

ees. McDonald's also homed in on a part in the law that would require more restaurants to add calorie information to their menus.

McDonald's also said it lobbied on proposed new federal guidelines that would curb marketing junk food to children. It also lob-

bied on a new law that gives the Food and Drug Administration more authority over food suppliers.

It also lobbied on fees that restaurants and retailers pay banks and other processors when a customer uses a debit card.

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AREN'T YOU PEOPLE SUPPOSED TO BE STRAPPED FOR CASH?

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



Here's a Christmas question. If 40 per cent of Canadians plan to do some or all of their holiday shopping online, up 11 per cent over last year, why am I stalled in this two-block lineup waiting to turn into the mall? You'd expect the malls to be decked with 40 per cent fewer shoppers. Not only that, there's a recession on, people. Aren't you supposed to be at home shivering in the dark instead of standing in front of me at the checkout, your arms full of holiday goodies, while your annoying children cling to you, wheedling for more?

Something doesn't add up here.

Think about it. Walmart is open 24-7. You could shop at 3 a.m. and avoid me and the rush altogether. Of course, for all I know, there could be lineups at 3 a.m. too. I'm not curious enough to find out.

"It's simply not necessary to go out at peak hours, which are defined as those times when I like to do my own Christmas shopping: between 2 and 4 p.m. on weekends, prior to or immediately after my afternoon nap."

Christmas shopping on Dec. 28, which is far enough away from Boxing Day, which is just another excuse for people to get in my way.

I'm sure friends and loved ones won't mind. There's usually a big letdown after all the presents are unwrapped, and there's not much to look forward to other than four to six more months of winter. Getting thoughtful gifts on December 28 will be a surprise treat.

Look, it's not all bad. When I got to the mall near my place this past weekend, it was a zoo, as expected, but some marketing genius decided to offer valet parking: eight bucks. Drive up, hand the family SUV over to a professional, and walk directly into the mall. Best eight bucks I ever spent.

And my wife had just enough Christmas spirit left to bake the traditional family dark Christmas cakes. I helped by waiting until she had them all wrapped and stored, and only then snuck into the kitchen and plundered at will.

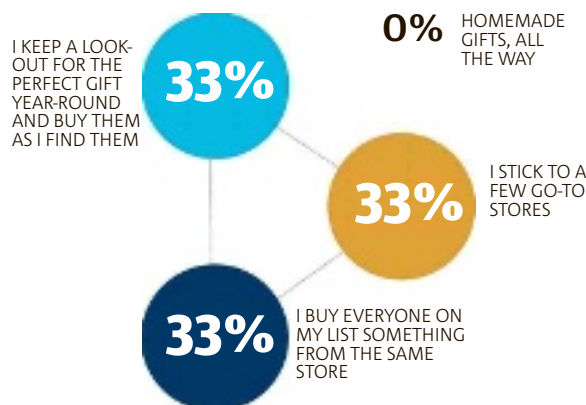
There are some things you just can't do online.

.....
Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying



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What is your gift-purchasing strategy?



Local tweets



► @OpenFile
OTT: An #Ottawa restaurant has

named a dish after new CBC host@RobynBresnahan. Who else deserves the honour? <http://opnfil.es/uyUEEI>

► @ottawastart: @OpenFileOTT how about a restaurant serving "Stuntman Stew"?@stuntmanstu

► @stuntmanstu: @ottawastart @OpenFileOTT Hmm....ya, works for me :)

► @sandrblakie: Thinking

of my old friend Kevin Nelson today. What a great talent ... what a wonderful wit ... what a loss. <http://pic.twitter.com/d0GS3Z2l>

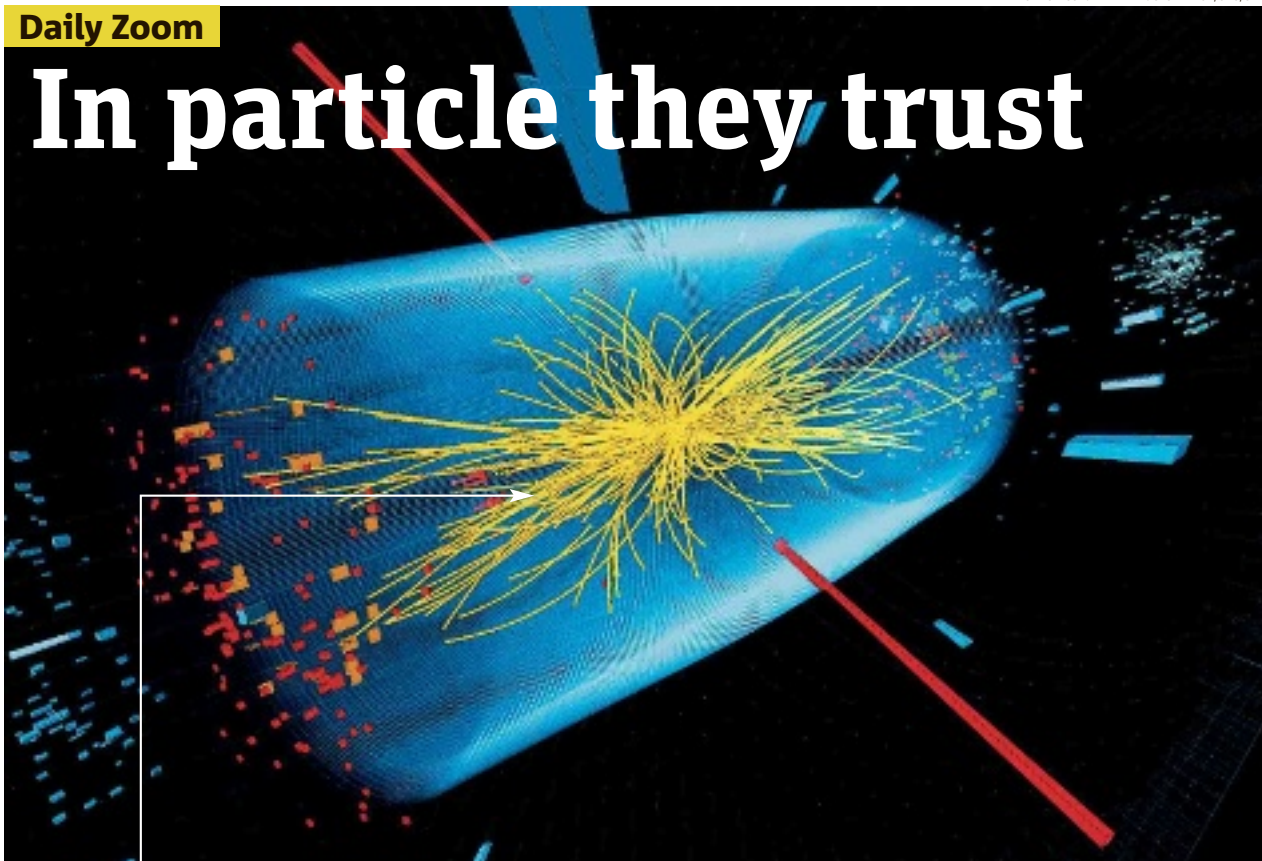
► @Jusdayne: usually I hate the rain but its so warm out that I don't mind #ottawa

► @MathieuFleury: #rinkof-dreams update. They are adding some tubes... #ottcitytwitpic.com/7sw2ok

► @MikeStrawQCS: the Ottawa Senators jerseys from the 90's will always be one of my favorites. Loved the logo, the sleeves, everything about it

Daily Zoom

In particle they trust



Hints of God particle found

GENEVA. Science collides with faith in the God particle. After two experiments using the Large Hadron Collider, the world's biggest atom smasher, scientists at CERN physics center say they have glimpses of the Higgs boson subatomic particle, the last missing link in understanding the universe.

● METRO WORLD NEWS



"It would be extremely kind of the Higgs boson to be here. It's too early (to say for sure)."

FABIOLA GIANOTTI,
SCIENTIST AT LHC

How they find new particles

SCIENCE. Scientists at CERN have been firing particles in opposite directions around a 27-kilometre-long underground tunnel, known as the Large Hadron Collider. When particles reach near the speed of light, they crash into each other. The resulting debris is then examined for new particles.

● METRO WORLD NEWS

Higgs boson

- **Last undiscovered particle.** It's a mysterious particle thought to give all particles mass.
- **To give all things shape.** This helps particles form atoms, which shapes everything in universe.
- **Famous nicknames.** The brick that built the universe, Angel of creation.



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Charlize Theron: Closet nerd

► While talking about her latest film, *Young Adult*, Theron reveals excruciating details of her awkward youth and says that she doesn't need another Oscar



HEIDI
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

It would probably be nice for Charlize Theron to get an Oscar for her performance in Jason Reitman's latest film, *Young Adult*.

Most critics seem to think she deserves one. But Theron herself notes: "I can't even think about anything like that ... And plus I have an Oscar," she says, referencing her win for 2003's *Monster*. She catches herself with a laugh. "That was such an asshole thing to say."

Maybe the 36-year-old is just channeling her inner jerk because that's the nature of her character in the film, Mavis Gary, a divorced, young adult author and all-around mess. Gary returns to her hometown to track down her high school boyfriend, now married with a new baby, in the hopes of rekindling their romance.

While promoting the film, which was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter Diablo Cody, Theron revealed some of her own Mavis-like behaviours.

So much of the press for this



► Charlize Theron plays Mavis Gary in *Young Adult*.

film discusses what an unsympathetic character Mavis is. How do you see her?

I thought that the things she did were pretty despic-

able but then again, not to the point where I was disgusted by her. I never had a hard time not liking her.

I would love to go and

have a beer with her. I would never let her hang out with my boyfriend. ...

What I liked when I read Diablo's script was the idea

Glasses girl

► Theron talks about her high school experience: "I wasn't in the popular crowd. I went to an arts school. I was obsessed with ballet. I wore really, really nerdy glasses. I was as blind as could be and boys don't really like big nerdy glasses. I had a massive crush on this guy that this interviewer who just did a story on me for *Vogue* actually found. This guy did not know I existed in school and he was all "yeah, tell her the crush was mutual." F— that. It was so not mutual. And then it was like, "I remember she wore those glasses."

of a woman who is dealing with very common mid to late 30s issues that women can really relate to but because of how she went through life, is dealing with them the way a 16-year-old would deal with them.

She says things like, "don't you know love conquers all?" I mean, it's like the typical 16-year-old would say that and here she is 37, trying to get her life together and she just doesn't have the tools to do it.

Box office



Charlie Sheen is returning to CTV with his new sitcom *Anger Management*. Sheen will play an anger management therapist whose methods wreak havoc on the lives of his patients.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bosnian Serb war victim says Angelina Jolie's film should be banned, says it vilifies Serbs



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THE CHIPS AREN'T DOWN

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The Chipmunks have done for small striped squirrels what Rin Tin Tin did for German Shepherds. That is, it made the squeaky-voiced rodents big screen stars.

Alvin, Theodore and Simon have been well-known since they topped the music charts with the Witch Doctor's crazy chorus, Oo-ee, oo-ah-ah, ting-tang, wal-la-walla, bing-bang in 1958 but their new movies, including this weekend's *The Chipmunks: Chipwrecked*, have turned them into the tiniest celebrities of the 20th century.

The three of them, along with furry actors like Despereaux Tilling, Fievel Mousekewitz and the gang from *Once Upon a Forest* have sold loads of tickets, but none would have made much of an impression if not for the pioneering work of the world's most famous rodent, Mickey Mouse.

Created in 1928 by Walt Disney and Ub Iwerks, Mickey is one of the most recognizable movie stars in the world, rodent or otherwise. He's an Oscar winner with 175 movies, shorts and video games on his CV;

and was the first cartoon character to have a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Mickey's fame endures, but why? "We felt that the public, and especially the children, like animals that are cute and little," said Walt Disney. "When people laugh at Mickey Mouse, it's because he's so human."

Mickey paved the way for generations of rodent actors.

G-Force is a sci-fi-spy film featuring a specially trained squad of guinea pigs who prevent an evil millionaire from taking over the world.

Who could forget Mr. Gopher, the burrowing terror from *Caddyshack*? (Did you know the movie's gopher "voice" is made up of the same dolphin sound effects used on *Flipper*?)

Or Rizzo the Rat, the

streetwise New Jersey puppet from *The Muppets Take Manhattan* and possibly the only kid's character named for Enrico (Ratso) Rizzo, a character in the X-rated *Midnight Cowboy*.

More sinister than Rizzo—despite his X-rated name—is Ben, the story of a boy and his rat. Best known for its Michael Jackson theme song — it's possibly the only love song to a rat ever released — the movie plays like a Disney movie, if they made a killer rat flick.

In the movie Danny, a bullied boy, befriends Ben, the leader of a swarm of telepathic rats.

When the police use flamethrowers to exterminate the rat pack only Ben survives, saved by his human friend. "I love you Ben," says Danny. "You're the only friend I have."

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► Alvin abandons a game of shuffleboard, to the consternation of Brittany, left, and Simon.

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Bullock suffers from first world problems

► To spoil kids or not? ► Actress struggles with hard questions at Christmas

Sandra Bullock is torn over what sort of Christmas to give her 2-year-old son, Louis.

"The less you give, the less they'll expect. And that way, if I give him nothing, he won't remember and he won't expect it next year and it's cheaper," Bullock tells Access Hollywood of the more frugal option. On the other hand, "I want the photo ops to be really great because he's not going to remember it, but he'll remember it by the photos and when he's 16 and says, 'I hate you — you're a horrible mother,'" she jokes. "I'll go, 'Do you see this Christmas? Do you see that I got



► Sandra Bullock

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

"The less you give, the less they'll expect ... if I give him nothing, he won't remember and he won't expect it next year and it's cheaper. I want the photo ops to be really great because he's not going to remember it." SANDRA BULLOCK

you that life-size lion? Shut up! Get in your room and do your homework. I was a good mother then."

● METRO

Drew worried for LiLo

► Celebrity Rehab host Dr. Drew says Lindsay Lohan is not headed in the right direction following her decision to pose nude for Playboy ► Shoot leaks to the web

While Lindsay Lohan has chosen an interesting avenue for a career comeback — posing nude for Playboy, Celebrity Rehab host Dr. Drew Pinsky tells Hollyscoop that it's not exactly the course he would prescribe.

"I mean, it's not a surprise Lindsay is trying to make a living," Dr. Drew says.

"I wish her the best, but she's not going in a great direction."

Lohan's Playboy shoot leaked online earlier this week and has been getting good reviews — not good enough to spur people to buy the magazine — but Lindsay is banking on the spread to help return her to the spotlight and work in Hollywood again.

● METRO



► Lindsay Lohan

Talking points

Winslet leaves wounds of the heart, ex says

SUCK IT UP NANCY. To hear ex-boyfriend Louis Dowler tell it, Kate Winslet is a real heartbreaker.

"I don't think Kate behaved well and it is still very raw for me," Dowler tells the Daily Mail.

The pair dated after Winslet's divorce from director Sam Mendes, though she's since moved on to dating Ned Rocknroll, Richard Branson's nephew.

"I was in love with her and you can't switch that off overnight. I'm not sure Kate treated me well," admits Dowler. "She

met my parents and family. I thought we were inseparable. I certainly haven't found anyone else since."

● METRO



Ryan Reynolds getting Lively

BLAKE LIGHTING HIS LANTERN Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds were reportedly "very cuddly" during a midmorning double date in NYC recently with Lively's older sister and brother-in-law, according to Us Weekly.

The Green Lantern costars and happy couple were "poking each other, giggling, and even seen leaning on each other in the booth," a source says.

The brunch wasn't without incident, though, as Lively "hit her head on a lamp as (she sat down in the booth) and put a napkin jokingly on her head."

● METRO

Celebrity tweets



"I think people gossip because their own lives are un-gossip worthy...Live a gossip worthy life...!)"

@kirstiealley



"Made the switch to iPhone ...now just waiting to grow thumbs..."

@katyperry

@HankAzaria

"In my hometown there was a fondue place that later became a crepe place. Then it became a french toast palace. The first 2 facts are true."



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3 life

Travel in brief



A "snow village" to be set up in Montreal's Jean Drapeau Park — complete with hotel, restaurant, bar, conference centre and chapel, all made out of ice and snow — will be a North American first, organizers say. The \$2.1-million project — mostly funded by a group of Quebec entrepreneurs and Tourism Quebec — is scheduled to open Jan. 6.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Chabad sponsors public menorah lightings in more than 70 countries for Hanukkah

Channeling New York Chutzpah

► New York City has the highest concentration of Jews outside of Israel ► Nosh on kosher food, watch the lighting of a massive menorah and visit some historic sites ► Mazel Tov!

Ellis Island

An obvious place to start is Ellis Island, where the ancestors of so many American Jews first set foot on U.S. soil. Boats run from Battery Park — schedules at statuecruises.com — to the National Park site in New York Harbor. The Ellis Island museum offers a wealth of artifacts connected to Jewish immigrants, including a photo of a kosher kitchen that opened on the island in 1911 and an eye chart with a line of Hebrew letters.



► Ellis Island

MARTY LEDERHANDLER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

BETH HARPAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Kutsher's

Kutsher's

Kutsher's Tribeca, which opened in November at 186 Franklin St., is the brainchild of Zach Kutsher, whose grandparents ran Kutsher's Country Club, a popular Catskills resort in its mid-20th century heyday. The menu reinvents and updates favourite Jewish comfort foods, offering savoury brisket meatballs,

chopped liver made from duck, and yummy matzo ball soup with dill. You can even order caviar with your latkes — though the roe is not from sturgeon, which isn't kosher. On Dec. 25, Kutsher's will offer a special Chinese-themed menu in honour of the American Jewish tradition of going out for Chinese food on Christmas Day.

Light the menorah

During Hanukkah, the Chabad-Lubavitch Jewish outreach organization sponsors the lighting of a massive menorah, about 10 metres tall, on Fifth Avenue and 59th Street near Central Park, Dec. 20-27. Candles are lit at 5:30 p.m., except for the Sabbath, with a 3:30 p.m. lighting Dec. 23 and 8:30 p.m. Dec. 24.



► Menorah on Fifth Avenue and 59th Street

LUBAVITCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Museum of Jewish Heritage

The Museum of Jewish Heritage is in Battery Park City. Through summer 2012, the museum is hosting a fascinating exhibit about Emma Lazarus. Lazarus' sonnet The New Colossus with its famous line "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses," is engraved on a tablet in the Statue of Liberty's pedestal, and Lady Liberty can be seen from the museum windows. Lazarus was born in New York to an old Sephardic Jewish family; a letter about religious



► Hanukkah lamp from the 1920s at the museum.

THE JEWISH MUSEUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

freedom from her great-great uncle to George Washington is part of the show. The Museum of Jewish Heritage was created as a memorial to those who perished in the Holocaust.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum at 97 Orchard St., tenement.org, is housed in a building that dates to 1863, but it was a time capsule when the museum acquired it in 1996: Its apartments had been sealed off since 1935. The building housed immigrants from various backgrounds, but some tours focus on Jewish families.



► One of the apartments at the museum.

KEIKO NIWA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

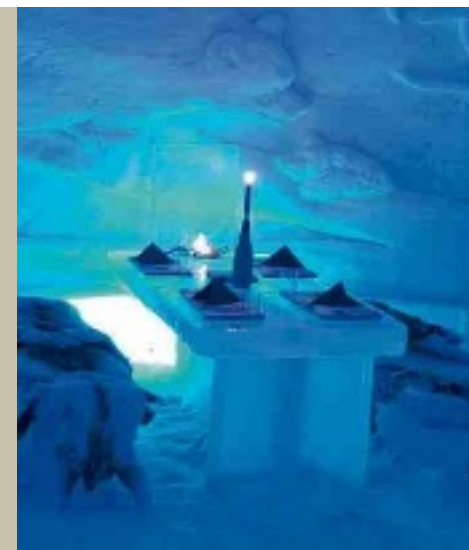
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You've spent sleepless nights nursing sick kids, early mornings getting everyone out the door for work and school, and weekends juggling activities, chores and homework.

It's time for a break — without the kids. While the first few days might be difficult and you'll fret about your offspring you left behind with grandma and grandpa, Cuba's charms will be hard to resist.

You'll soon ease yourself into endless hours of beach, warm, salty ocean water and no more responsibilities than walking to the buffet for a meal — an effort that after days lounging on beach chairs seemed quite an accomplishment.

Varadero is one of the most visited beach destinations in Cuba, with endless resorts dotting its 21 kilo-

metres of beaches, a commercial downtown and friendly staff determined to make sure tourists enjoy themselves enough to return time and time again.

Tourism is a key driver of Cuba's economy and Varadero's resorts know how to make people feel welcome. All you can drink and eat packages, with options like water sports, pool activities and nightclubs, give revellers enough choice to enjoy their time away.

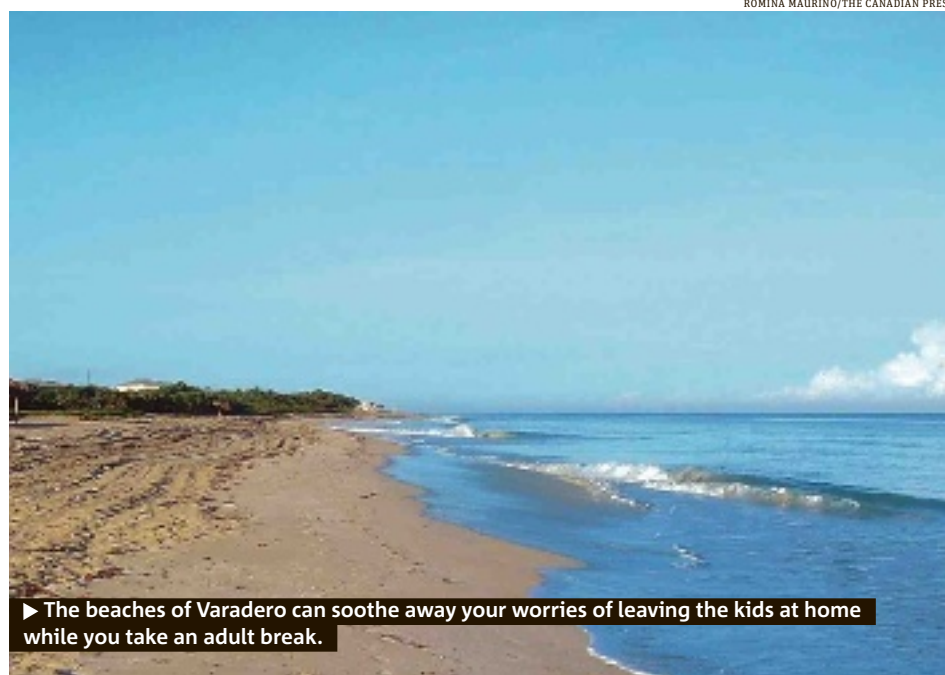
Some recommend the more tranquil, secluded beaches of Cayo Coco, but Varadero also has the advantage of being about a two-hour drive from Havana, a must-see for anyone interested in Cuban culture.

Havana's old city centre, a UNESCO World Heritage

site, is steeped in history, beautiful architecture and filled with outdoor cafes, restaurants and cigar shops — including the famous Bodeguita del Medio, where Ernest Hemingway supposedly spent a fair amount of time drinking mojitos.

Hemingway fans can also visit the Hotel Ambos Mundos where the writer stayed, visit his room and peruse old photographs, including one of the Cuban fisherman said to have inspired one of the author's best-known books, *The Old Man and the Sea*.

With the option of a day trip to Havana, Varadero offers the perfect combination of relaxing beach vacation and cultural experience, a great balance for overtired, stressed-out parents looking to recharge.



► The beaches of Varadero can soothe away your worries of leaving the kids at home while you take an adult break.

It's also the kind of initiative parenting expert Alyson Schafer says parents need to take for their well-being, as well as that of their children.

"Everybody feels guilty, certainly the first time, and probably more if (the kids) are younger," said Schafer, a psychotherapist and the

author of the book *Ain't Misbehavin'.*

"It's just a matter of giving parents the confidence that it's a healthy thing to be able to hand our kids off and trust that it takes a village, other people can actually care for our kids and they'll be fine."

It's also important for

children, because it helps them realize that their parents can leave and come back and that others can also look after them.

When the parents return, they're also more relaxed and bonded as a couple, which makes for a better family dynamic.

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Keep it simple — and impress

► This meat dish, which looks fancy but doesn't require much work, is ideal for entertaining

HOLIDAY HELPER

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



Simple and tasty are key to helping you entertain this season and beef is the perfect choice!

Ask your butcher for a tri-tip roast for this recipe as the texture of meat is tender and juicy.

You can also use your favourite beef roasts such as a strip loin, rib or sirloin tip roast.

Serve it up with mashed potatoes or creamy polenta.

Preparation:

1 In small bowl, stir together oil, pesto,

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp (30 mL) each extra virgin olive oil, sundried tomato pesto, aged balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) soy sauce

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) roasted garlic and peppers spice mix
- 1 tsp (5 mL) herbes de provence
- 1 bottom sirloin tri-tip oven roast about 2 lb/1 kg

vinegar, soy sauce, spice mix and herbes de provence until combined. Spread all over roast and place on rack in roasting pan.

2 Oven sear the roast by placing it in a preheated 450 F (230 C) oven for 10 minutes.

3 Reduce heat to 275 F (140 C) and cook for about 1 hour and 45 minutes or until meat thermometer registers 145 F (63 C) for medium rare or to desired doneness.

4 Remove from oven, cover loosely with foil and let rest for about 15 minutes. Slice thinly to serve. **EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR & TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

Holiday prep

► We're here to help
Next Wednesday is the final edition of Emily Richard's Holiday Helper. Check out metronews.ca/food for past editions.



EMILY RICHARDS

Drink of the week

Isle of Mull

Scotch is the perfect winter drink, whether it's après-ski or after-dinner. Sadly, the liquor was mostly forgotten by the cocktail revolution. For something more contemporary than a Rusty Nail, try this drink.

- 1.25 oz blended Scotch whisky
- .5 oz Bénédictine
- .25 oz Stone's Green Ginger Wine
- dash of Fee's Plum Bitters
- dash of cherry juice

Build in a rocks glass, and garnish with sour cherries soaked in whisky. **JOE HOWELL, TORONTO BARTENDER**

JOE HOWELL



For all the nibblers

► Tender pancakes, topped with lemon cream cheese and smoked salmon, are great with sparkling wine

EMILY RICHARDS



► This recipe makes 32 Smoked Salmon Blinis.

Ingredients:

- 2 tsp (10 mL) traditional active dry yeast
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) lukewarm water
- 1 ¾ cup (425 mL)

lukewarm buttermilk

- 1 cup (250 mL) each all purpose & buckwheat flour
- 1 tsp (5 mL) salt
- 2 eggs, separated
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) butter, melted

- ½ cup (125 mL) cream cheese
- 1 ½ tsp (7 mL) grated lemon rind
- 1 tsp (5 mL) lemon juice
- 1 lb (500 g) thinly sliced smoked salmon

Preparation:

1 In a bowl, dissolve yeast in water and stir in 1 ¼ cups (300 mL) of buttermilk. Let stand 10 mins or until begins to froth.

2 In another bowl, combine all purpose and buckwheat flours and salt. Sift flour mix into

buttermilk mix and stir until combined. Stir in remaining buttermilk. Whisk egg yolks into batter. Cover and set aside in warm place to rise for about 1 hour or until batter is bubbly. Beat egg whites until stiff peaks; fold into batter. Cover and let rise 1 hr.

3 Brush nonstick skillet with melted butter; heat over a medium high heat. Spoon 1 tbsp (15 mL) of batter for each blini and cook 1 min., until bubbles break through. Turn blini over; brown 30 more seconds. Remove from pan and overlap on a plate; repeat with

remaining batter.

4 In bowl, combine cream cheese, lemon rind and juice. Spread some cream cheese mix onto each blini. Roll sliced salmon around finger to create a rosette and place on each blini.

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Festive cake fit for Christmas

► Combine pears with tart dried cranberries and a decadent frosting

When dreaming up ideas for holiday cakes, you want three things — warm spices, sweet-tart fruit and a moist crumb.

This holiday cranberry-pear layer cake delivers by combining ginger, cinnamon and cardamom for rich, warm flavours.

To balance those spices, dried cranberries are in the cake, while grated orange zest is added to the frosting.

Finally, fresh pears add moisture and a subtle fruity flavour.

Preparation:

1 Coat two 23-cm (9-inch) round cake pans with baking spray. Line bottom of each pan with parchment paper.

2 In bowl of electric mixer, beat sugar, butter, vanilla, baking powder, bak-

ing soda, ginger and salt until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, scraping bowl between additions.

3 Stir in pears and flour and mix until combined. Stir in cranberries. Divide batter between prepared cake pans and bake in 180 C (350 F) oven 30 mins. or until wooden pick inserted at centre comes out clean. Let cool

in pans 10 mins; turn on-to rack to finish cooling.

4 Frosting: In bowl of an electric mixer, beat butter, sugar, orange rind, cardamom, ginger and cinnamon until creamy. Add cream cheese and mix until completely incorporated and smooth.

5 To assemble, place 1 cake on serving plate, spread 175 ml (3/4 cup) of frosting evenly over top of it. Place second cake over it. Spread remaining frosting over top and sides of cake, swirling it. Decorate with strips of orange zest and dried cranberries, if desired. Refrigerate until serving.

ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. (EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients:

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) granulated sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup/1 stick) unsalted butter, softened
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) vanilla extract
- 10 ml (2 tsp) baking powder
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking soda
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground gin-

ger

- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 2 eggs
- 3 ripe pears, cored, peeled and finely chopped (about 500 ml/2 cups total)
- 500 ml (2 cups) all-purpose flour
- 500 ml (2 cups) chopped dried cranberries

Frosting

- 250 ml (1 cup/2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 500 ml (2 cups) icing sugar

- 10 ml (2 tsp) grated orange rind
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground cardamom
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 2 pkgs (each 250 g/8 oz) cream cheese
- Strips of orange rind (optional)
- Dried cranberries, to decorate (optional)

Cranberry Pear Cake



► This recipe serves 16.

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Talk the talk, reap the benefits

► Honesty and a genuine attempt at listening to co-workers can lead to greater things than just a happy office

MONICA WEYMOUTH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

It's a common workplace complaint in almost any industry: "There's no communication around here."

But as much as it might be lamented in the cubicles, managers are frequently baffled by the gripe, says Dianna Booher, a productivity and communications consultant and author of more than 40 books, including the newly revised *Communicate with Confidence!*

"It's a recurring issue. When I talk to CEOs, they're always puzzled. They say, 'How can people say that? We give out information all the time,'" says Booher.

"I can sum it up for them in four words: Information is not communication."

That said, don't be that guy whining about the lack of communication. Nobody likes that guy. Instead, be proactive and raise the bar with these tips.

"People talk about voter apathy all the time, but a lot of times you see it in the workplace," says Booher. "But you can change things."

Tell the truth — the whole truth

It's not enough to tell your



► Take a look at your team. If you notice that someone in the back isn't being heard, encourage them to speak their mind.

co-workers that you'll hit the deadline. You also need to mention that in order to do so, you had to alter the project and rely on your strung-out intern to do sensitive research. "It's got to be the truth, but it also has to be the entire, current truth," says Booher. "If you withhold bad news, people go to other sources."

Make sure you have

discussions

Evaluate your conversations with your co-workers: Is there a back-and-forth and some healthy debate on occasion?

It's a good sign if people think your opinion is worth changing.

"If you feel like everybody agrees with you, something's wrong," says Booher. "There's a one-

way communication system there, and that's not what you want."

Care, or at least get good at pretending you do

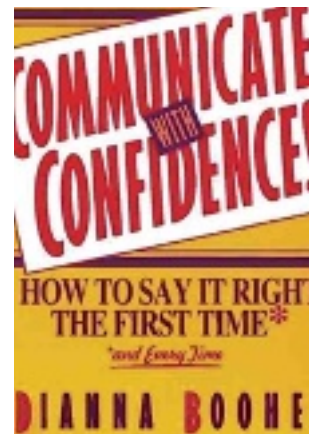
"It's a cliché that people don't care what you say, they have to know that you care about them when you say it — but it's true," says Booher. "If your staff thinks you only care about the numbers, then they'll

tune you out."

Why it's worth it

Good communication is more than just a nice idea to throw around at company retreats.

"Companies are far more profitable when there's good communication," says Booher. "Employees are more productive and there's less turnover. Most of the



"It's a recurring issue. When I talk to CEOs, they're always puzzled. They say, 'How can people say that? We give out information all the time,'" says Booher.

"I can sum it up for them in four words: Information is not communication."

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time, people don't leave companies because they don't like the work — they leave because they don't like the culture."

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On learning in another land

► Thinking of going on an educational exchange? ► One Ryerson University student shares his experience



HUSSEIN HASHI
TALENTEGG.CA

My name is Hussein Hashi and I'm a fourth year chemical engineering co-op student at Ryerson University.

This summer I had the opportunity to complete an internship as a research assistant at the University of Stuttgart in Stuttgart, Germany. This internship at Institute for Chemical Process Engineering (ICVT) was taken through the Ontario/Baden-Württemberg Summer Research Program.

Why I wanted to go on an exchange

I was interested in this exchange program for many different reasons. Person-



► Lost but loving every minute of it.

ally, I wanted to develop an awareness and understanding of a different culture.

Academically, I want to

pursue a research-based master's program in the future and thought that this would be a good way to find out if I was inter-

ested in research.

Professionally, I hoped that this experience would assist me to become a better engineer by learning how to communicate across many different cultures.

How I adjusted to life in Germany

The University of Stuttgart has two campuses, one downtown and the other in the suburb of Vaihingen. They have many dormitories and apartment flats in Vaihingen campus and around the city, which are similar to campus dormitories in Ontario and are reasonably priced.

My experience living on campus was great because of my roommates who were an awesome group of people to be around and hailed from across the

Hussein's advice

- Have a compelling statement of interest letter outlining why you are interested in the program, and what you can offer to a potential university researcher.
- There is a similar summer research program organized by Ontario Universities International in Ontario/Rhône-Alpes, France that may be of interest.

globe.

There are a few cultural differences that I had to get used to upon my arrival to Stuttgart. One was the opening and closing times of several stores and government buildings

which makes enrolling in the university and the city quite the adventure. The university international office has a pretty amazing welcome buddy program that pairs you with a student that helps with this process and makes it much easier.

On weekends, I was able to travel to many different cities in Germany which include Heidelberg, Konstanz, Munich, Berlin, and Dusseldorf. I was also able to travel to Vienna, Prague, and Europa Park.

Overall, with this experience abroad, I have accomplished all the goals that I have set for myself, made lifelong friends, and I have memories I will never forget.

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DANIEL LUBLIN

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Following a bad day at work and thinking that he would be fired, Philip Chan elected to resign instead. However, in another tale from the workplace trenches with an ending you would not expect, a court found that Chan's resignation was actually a termination.

Chan, the general manager of a busy Denny's restaurant in Langley, B.C., had his fair share of problems with his super-

visor, who had repeatedly criticized his performance.

Although Chan had been well-regarded within the company, by May 2009 the tone and content of the communication from his boss led him to believe that he would soon be fired. Matters came to a head when Chan was given the choice of being dismissed or resigning.

For Chan, "saving face" was paramount, so he resigned rather than face dismissal.

However, at the urging of another senior employee, Chan soon returned to his job. His content with his boss would not last long.

After another hectic day at the restaurant, Chan's manager came to him once more and said

that he could choose to resign or else he would be fired. Again, faced with the possibility of explaining his termination to prospective employers, Chan opted to resign. He drafted a letter confirming his decision and left work.

This time, however, although Chan's departure was permanent, he was not about to go quietly. Chan recently sued Denny's, arguing that the ultimatum he was given was tantamount to a dismissal.

At a recent trial, the judge drew a clear bright line between an employee who voluntarily leaves and one who is told he will otherwise be fired.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP. TO READ THIS ARTICLE IN ITS ENTIRETY VISIT METRONEWS.CA



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Michalek lost in Sens win

► NHL's top goal scorer leaves game in second period after collision with teammate Karlsson



► Senators Milan Michalek, left and Erik Karlsson collide as the Sabres' Paul Szczechura skates away with the puck in Buffalo last night. Michalek did not return.

Jared Cowen scored 45 seconds into overtime last night as the Ottawa Senators came back to defeat the Buffalo Sabres 3-2.

The rookie defenceman pinched into the slot and redirected a pass from Erik Karlsson in the right corner.

Milan Michalek and Peter Regin also scored for Ottawa, which came back after trailing 2-1 in the first period. Michalek, who leads the NHL with 19 goals, left the game with 5 ½ minutes remaining in the second pe-

3	2
	
SENATORS	SABRES

riod after colliding with Karlsson. The Senators had

no update except to announce shortly after the third period began that Michalek would not return.

Michalek has already scored more goals than all of last season, and is seven shy of matching his career high set in 2006-07 with San Jose.

Craig Anderson stopped 27 shots to pick up the win.

Ryan Miller made a season-high 41 saves for the Sabres, who dropped to 2-5-3 in their last 10 home games. Paul Szczechura and

Tyler Ennis scored for Buffalo.

Buffalo had its six-game winning streak against Ottawa snapped. The Sabres are 8-1-1 in the last 10 games of the Northeast Division rivalry.

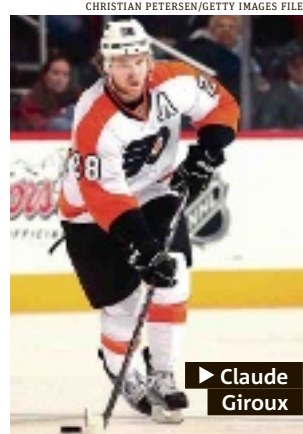
Regin's goal tied the game 7 ½ minutes into the third period when his point shot got through a screen in front of Miller.

Buffalo got off to yet another slow start as Michalek scored in the game's first minute. As

Miller appeared to lose sight of the puck, Jason Spezza delivered a drop pass to Michalek in the slot for an easy one-timer.

Buffalo came back and scored with 5:44 left in the first when Szczechura scored on a backhand after breaking up a pass in the slot. Just 88 seconds later, Ennis put the Sabres up on a wrist shot from the slot, following a nice feed by Drew Stafford in the left circle after a Senators turnover. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Flyers' Giroux latest star felled by concussion



► Claude Giroux

Philadelphia Flyers star Claude Giroux is out indefinitely with a concussion.

Flyers general manager Paul Holmgren said yesterday that Giroux's symptoms have become worse since he suffered a head injury against Tampa Bay last week.

"He skated a little bit today; didn't feel that good. Just didn't feel like himself," Holmgren said last night in Washington before the Flyers faced the Capi-

39
Claude Giroux leads the NHL with 39 points and has led the Flyers to the top of the Eastern Conference standings.

tals. "I don't know that there's any good news in this other than after 15 minutes or so, once he stopped skating, he did

start to feel a little better." The immediate treatment will be rest.

"We're just going to take it easy with Claude," Holmgren said. "We'll probably just give him some time off (today) and revisit again (tomorrow). Obviously we're concerned. Claude is one of our better players and obviously is off to a great start this season. We're going to err on the side of caution."

Giroux took an inadvertent knee to the head by

teammate Wayne Simmonds near the end of the second period on Saturday.

The Flyers said on Monday that Giroux had been feeling better. But another examination yesterday found Giroux has a concussion.

Giroux leads the Flyers with 16 goals and 23 assists. His 39 points were three ahead of Toronto's Phil Kessel for the NHL lead heading into last night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4

sports

Senators preview

Boston at Ottawa
7:30 p.m.
TV: TSN



Ottawa (14-13-4) will try to snap a three-game winless streak when it hosts the Bruins (19-9-1). Boston, which played Los Angeles last night, recovered from a brief two-game slide to beat Columbus 5-3 on Saturday. Zdeno Chara left Saturday's game with a leg injury and is day-to-day. Tyler Seguin leads the Bruins with 26 points, but has cooled off with three points in his last seven games. Former Senators forward Chris Kelly scored on Saturday and is second on Boston with 11 goals. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	28	18	7	2	1	101	81	39	8-4-1-1	10-3-1-0	7-3-0-0	W5
d-Boston	28	18	9	0	1	94	59	37	10-6-0-1	8-3-0-0	7-2-0-1	W1
d-Florida	30	16	9	2	3	82	77	37	6-2-1-3	10-7-1-0	5-3-2-0	L2
NY Rangers	27	17	6	1	3	83	60	38	8-2-0-2	9-4-1-1	7-2-0-1	W2
Pittsburgh	30	17	9	2	2	94	75	38	8-2-2-0	9-7-0-2	6-3-1-0	W1
Toronto	29	15	11	2	1	91	94	33	6-4-2-1	9-7-0-0	5-4-1-0	L2
Buffalo	29	15	12	1	1	79	79	32	7-9-1-1	8-3-0-0	3-5-1-1	L1
Washington	28	15	12	0	1	88	89	31	10-4-0-1	5-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W2
New Jersey	29	15	13	0	1	76	84	31	6-5-0-1	9-8-0-0	5-5-0-0	W1
Montreal	30	12	11	2	5	74	77	31	4-5-2-4	8-6-0-1	2-3-2-3	W1
Winnipeg	29	13	12	3	1	82	92	30	9-4-0-0	4-8-3-1	6-3-1-0	L1
Ottawa	30	13	13	2	2	91	105	30	7-6-0-1	6-7-2-1	3-4-2-1	L3
Tampa Bay	30	12	16	0	2	79	101	26	7-5-0-0	5-11-0-2	3-7-0-0	L2
NY Islanders	27	9	12	4	2	62	88	24	6-7-3-0	3-5-1-2	4-3-2-1	L2
Carolina	31	9	18	2	2	79	108	22	5-9-0-2	4-9-2-0	2-8-0-0	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Minnesota	30	20	7	2	1	79	64	43	10-4-1-0	10-3-1-1	8-2-0-0	W7
d-Chicago	30	18	8	1	3	99	92	40	9-2-0-3	9-6-1-0	6-3-0-1	W2
d-Dallas	28	16	11	0	1	73	78	33	9-4-0-1	7-7-0-0	5-4-0-1	W1
Detroit	28	18	9	1	0	89	62	37	12-2-1-0	6-7-0-0	8-2-0-0	W2
Vancouver	29	18	10	0	1	97	71	37	8-4-0-1	10-6-0-0	9-1-0-0	W4
St. Louis	29	17	9	0	3	71	62	37	11-3-0-1	6-6-0-2	7-2-0-1	W3
Phoenix	29	15	11	1	2	77	76	33	6-6-1-1	9-5-0-1	5-5-0-0	L2
San Jose	27	15	10	2	0	75	64	32	8-6-1-0	7-4-1-0	4-5-1-0	L2
Nashville	29	14	11	3	1	77	79	32	5-5-2-1	9-6-1-0	4-6-0-0	W2
Edmonton	30	14	13	0	3	83	80	31	9-5-0-2	5-8-0-1	4-5-0-1	L1
Calgary	29	14	13	1	1	73	80	30	8-5-1-1	6-8-0-0	6-3-0-1	W3
Los Angeles	29	13	12	2	2	65	67	30	8-9-0-1	5-3-2-1	3-6-1-0	L4
Colorado	30	13	16	1	0	78	91	27	7-9-0-0	6-7-1-0	4-6-0-0	L3
Anaheim	29	8	16	2	3	67	95	21	6-9-1-0	2-7-1-3	2-7-1-0	L2
Columbus	29	8	17	1	3	71	99	20	5-8-1-1	3-9-0-2	3-4-2-1	L2

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

MONDAY

DEVILS 5, LIGHTNING 4

First Period

1. New Jersey, Sykora 6 (Salvador, Elias) 0:28

2. New Jersey, Zubrus 9 (Taormina, Henrique) 5:38 (pp)

3. Tampa Bay, Downie 4 (Gilroy, Stamkos) 17:34

4. Tampa Bay, Jones 1 (Tyrell, Gilroy) 18:54

Penalty — Brewer TB (holding) 3:44.

Second Period

5. New Jersey, Parise 9 (Henrique, Tallinder) 0:56

6. New Jersey, Kovalchuk 9 (Parise) 5:42

7. New Jersey, Henrique 7 (Parise, Fayne) 13:23 (sh)

Penalties — Carter NJ, Kubina TB (fighting) 4:43, Larsson NJ (interference) 8:12, Taormina NJ (delay of game) 9:52, Tallinder NJ (tripping) 13:07, Larsson NJ (interference) 16:21, Moore TB (tripping) 19:11.

Third Period

8. Tampa Bay, Stamkos 17 (Moore, Lecavalier) 9:29 (pp)

9. Tampa Bay, Stamkos 18 (Kubina, Lecavalier) 19:26

Penalties — Clarkson NJ, Malone TB (fighting) 2:01, Moore TB (slashing) 4:49, Urborn NJ (cross-checking, fighting), Downie TB (fighting) 8:23.

Shots on goal

New Jersey	11	6	5	—22
Tampa Bay	10	17	9	—36

Goal (shots-saves) — New Jersey: Hedberg (W,9-5-1); Tampa Bay: Roloson (12-9), Garon (L,6-8-1)(0:56 second)(10-8). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — New Jersey: 1-3; Tampa Bay: 1-5.

Attendance — 17,341 (19,204) at Tampa, Fla.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	3	0	.769	396	274
N.Y. Jets	8	5	0	.615	327	270
Buffalo	5	8	0	.385	288	341
Miami	4	9	0	.308	256	246

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Houston	10	3	0	.769	330	208
Tennessee	7	6	0	.538	266	251
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	193	252
Indianapolis	0	13	0	.000	184	382

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	10	3	0	.769	320	202
Pittsburgh	10	3	0	.769	282	198
Cincinnati	7	6	0	.538	285	270
Cleveland	4	9	0	.308	178	254

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	8	5	0	.615	269	302
Oakland	7	6	0	.538	290	354
San Diego	6	7	0	.462	324	299
Kansas City	5	8	0	.385	173	305

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	7	6	0	.538	324	349
Dallas	7	6	0	.538	317	281
Philadelphia	5	8	0	.385	297	292
Washington	4	9	0	.308	229	290

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	415	286
Atlanta	8	5	0	.615	300	267
Carolina	4	9	0	.308	313	355
Tampa Bay	4	9	0	.308	232	370

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Green Bay	13	0	0	1.000	466	278
Detroit	8	5	0	.615	367	305
Chicago	7	6	0	.538	301	255
Minnesota	2	11	0	.154	274	364

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-San Francisco	10	3	0	.769	307	182
Seattle	6	7	0	.462	246	259
Arizona	6	7	0	.462	253	288
St. Louis	2	11	0	.154	153	326

x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division

Monday's result

Seattle 30 St. Louis 13

Tomorrow's game

All times Eastern

Jacksonville at Atlanta, 8:20 p.m.

Saturday's game

Dallas at Tampa Bay, 8:20 p.m.

Sunday's games

New Orleans at Minnesota, 1 p.m.

Seattle at Chicago, 1 p.m.

Cincinnati at St. Louis, 1 p.m.

Carolina at Houston, 1 p.m.

Green Bay at Kansas City, 1 p.m.

Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.

Miami at Buffalo, 1 p.m.

Washington at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.

Detroit at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.

New England at Denver, 4:15 p.m.

Cleveland at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia, 4:15 p.m.

Baltimore at San Diego, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 19

Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 8:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with C Kelly Shoppach on a one-year contract.

K.C. ROYALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Francis-ley Bueno, RHP Juan Gutierrez, C Max Ramirez & OF Greg Golson on minor league contracts.

BASKETBALL

NBA

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS—Agreed to terms with C Kwame Brown on a one-year contract.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Re-signed F Luc Richard Mbah a Moute to a multiyear contract.

NEW JERSEY NETS—Signed F Shelden Williams.

PHOENIX SUNS—Waived G Zabian Dowdell. Signed G Ronnie Price. Added F Marcus Landry to roster.

FOOTBALL

NFL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Suspended Pittsburgh LB James Harrison for 1 game without pay for hit on Cleveland QB Colt McCoy in game on Dec. 8.

BUFFALO BILLS—Signed OT Erik Pears to a contract extension.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Placed RB DeMarco Murray and S Barry Church on injured reserve.

Signed RB Sammy Morris and S Mana Silva.

Signed CB C.J. Wilson to the practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Placed CB Ron Parker on injured reserve. Released DE Keith Darbut from the practice squad.

Signed DE John Graves to the practice squad.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Signed DE Nick Reed. Signed DT Lamar Divens, OT Mike Ingersoll & FB Austin Sylvester to practice squad.

TENNESSEE TITANS—Signed LB Kevin Malast off Jacksonville's practice squad.

Placed LB Barrett Ruud WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed TE Richared Quinn. Placed T Chris Baker on injured reserve.

HOCKEY

NHL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Fined Tampa Bay F Steve Downie \$2,500 for leaving bench to become involved in an altercation in a game on Dec. 8.

BOSTON BRUINS—Recalled F Zach Hamill from Providence (AHL).

FLORIDA PANTHERS—Assigned LW Tim Kennedy to San Antonio (AHL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS—Activated F Blake Geoffrion from injured reserve and assigned him to Milwaukee (AHL).

Assigned D Taylor Aronson to Cincinnati (ECHL).

ST. LOUIS BLUES—Recalled F Evgeny Grachev from Peoria (AHL).

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Assigned D Evan Oberg to Norfolk (AHL).

WINNIPEG JETS—Claimed F Antti Miettinen off waivers from Tampa Bay. Activated D Ron Hainsey from the injured reserve.

AHL

LEAGUE OFFICE—Suspended Albany LW Myles Stoesz for 4 games & Okla. City D Kirill Tulupov for 2 games for their actions in games on Dec. 10 & Rockford LW Jeremy Morin for 3 games for his actions in a game on Dec. 11.

CHARLOTTE CHECKERS—Recalled F Justin Shugg from Florida (ECHL).

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Gazing into the near future

- ▶ Audi prepares to enter the hybrid fray in Canada next year with its Q5 Hybrid
- ▶ As writer Jil McIntosh tells us, it's definitely fun to drive, especially in 'Sport' mode

JIL MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

When they were introduced, gasoline-electric hybrids were small, basic cars. As the technology matured, so did the vehicles, and today, most premium brands include hybrids in their lineup — as Audi will, when the hybrid version of its Q5 compact SUV goes on sale next summer.

Although they pay more for their vehicles initially, premium-vehicle owners still don't want to spend a lot at the pumps, and they appreciate the fuel savings a hybrid can provide.

That said, while exact pricing is yet to come, the Q5 Hybrid will cost around \$55,000, about \$10,000 more than the non-hybrid Q5 upon which it's based.

There has to be more than just fuel economy, and in this case, it's performance.

The Q5 Hybrid uses the turbocharged, direct-injection 2.0-litre four-cylinder from the regular Q5, with an eight-speed automatic transmission and the company's "Quattro" all-wheel-drive.

An electric motor is sandwiched between the



▶ The 2013 Audi Q5 Hybrid will be available in Canada next summer.

engine and transmission, fed by a 72-cell lithium-ion battery pack mounted under the cargo floor.

The engine produces 211 horsepower and 258 lb-ft of torque, but when you mash the throttle, the electric motor can add a brief boost to 245 horsepower and 354 lb-ft of torque.

Since electric motors make their peak power right from the start — unlike gasoline engines, which have to rev up — the power surge is immediate.

This hybrid is great fun to drive.

It's a "full" hybrid (but you don't plug it into the wall), capable of starting and running solely on its battery at 60 km/h for up to three kilometres.

If you're already cruising, it can switch over to electricity at speeds of up to 100 km/h. Come to a stop and the gasoline engine shuts off, although all the electronics continue to function, including the electrically-operated air

conditioning.

An animated display in the dash shows what type of power is being used.

The switch from gas to electric happens automatically, although if all the driving conditions are appropriate, you can hit a button to keep it in electric-only mode.

The Q5 is one of my favourites to drive, and when I piloted an early production version on an event in Spain, I discovered that the Hybrid is just

Estimated
price:
\$55,000

2013 Audi Q5

- ▶ **Engine:** Turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder with hybrid system.
- ▶ **Power:** 211 hp/258 torque (gasoline engine); 245 hp/354 torque (maximum hybrid combined).
- ▶ **Fuel consumption:** TBA
- ▶ **On sale:** Summer 2012

more of the same. It's intelligently sized, it wraps around corners almost like a sports car, and it's light and agile even though the hybrid system adds 130 kilograms.

The electric steering is tuned to feel hydraulic, with excellent weight and feedback.

If you don't mind using a bit more gas, you can put the Q5 into "Sport" mode, which makes it feel even sharper on the curves.

The price will be a major factor, and the Q5 Hybrid will probably remain a relatively rare model on Canadian roads, but it's meant to pave the way for yet another innovation: the all-electric Audi E-Tron sports car, which will make the leap from concept to production next year.

5 drive

Award Winner

Ford F-150 nabs Motor Trend honour

The Ford F-150 was named 2012 Truck of the Year by Motor Trend this week. The magazine felt the F-150 best met the award's six key criteria: engineering excellence, advancement in design, efficiency, safety, value, and performance of intended function. "The bottom line is that the F-150 simply excels at being ... a truck. It mastered every task we subjected it to," said Edward Loh, Motor Trend's editor-in-chief. **METRO**

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metro

A smart design in a small space

► Because the Scion iQ is so tiny, engineers had to get creative

DRIVING FORCE

JIL MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONews.CA

One of the major issues when designing a vehicle is space. Cars have a lot of components and only so much room in which to fit them. It was a considerable challenge for Toyota with the tiny iQ recently introduced in its Scion brand.

"We used a collection of different engineering ap-



► Fuel efficiency, agility and safety are all a part of the iQ's small package.

proaches for different components, which allowed us to make this size

of vehicle but still have the functionality of a larger vehicle," says John-Paul

Farag, manager of advanced technology and powertrain for Toyota Canada.

"The vehicle must have fuel efficiency, agility and safety within a small package."

The first challenge was designing what Toyota says is the world's smallest air conditioning system.

It isn't enough to simply downsize everything. If there isn't enough space between the fan blades, or if the blades are too thin, the system won't get enough air and it won't work properly.

The company had to come up with a new manufacturing technique to produce smaller but more rigid blades.

The blower and a/c unit were integrated into a sin-

gle unit that fits behind the dash. Getting cold air to the occupants was also challenging. The engineers came up with a simplified design that reduced the number of curves in the ductwork, improving the airflow.

"There are always trade-offs," Farag says.

"You can't use a unit this small to cool a large SUV, but we think because of what we did with this unit, you may see some of these improvements incorporated into other vehicles."

The engine is a compact design, and a continuously variable transmission (CVT), which uses pulleys instead of gears, and was chosen not only for its fuel efficiency but because it's smaller than a regular au-

tomatic transmission. The fuel tank is wider but much shallower than most tanks to fit under the rear seat and trunk without affecting interior space.

Space-saving tricks must also take passengers into account: the front seats were slimmed down for more interior space but their design still had to be comfortable. A flat-bottom steering wheel provides more legroom for the driver. The dash uses an asymmetrical design that sits the front passenger further ahead than the driver for more rear-seat room, without affecting the driver's visibility.

"We were dealt a challenge with this vehicle for space, and we dealt with it by new engineering and designs," Farag says.



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► The Scion iQ boasts what Toyota deems as the world's smallest air conditioning system.

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RAM

Frontier has proven to be 'dependable'

SECOND GEAR



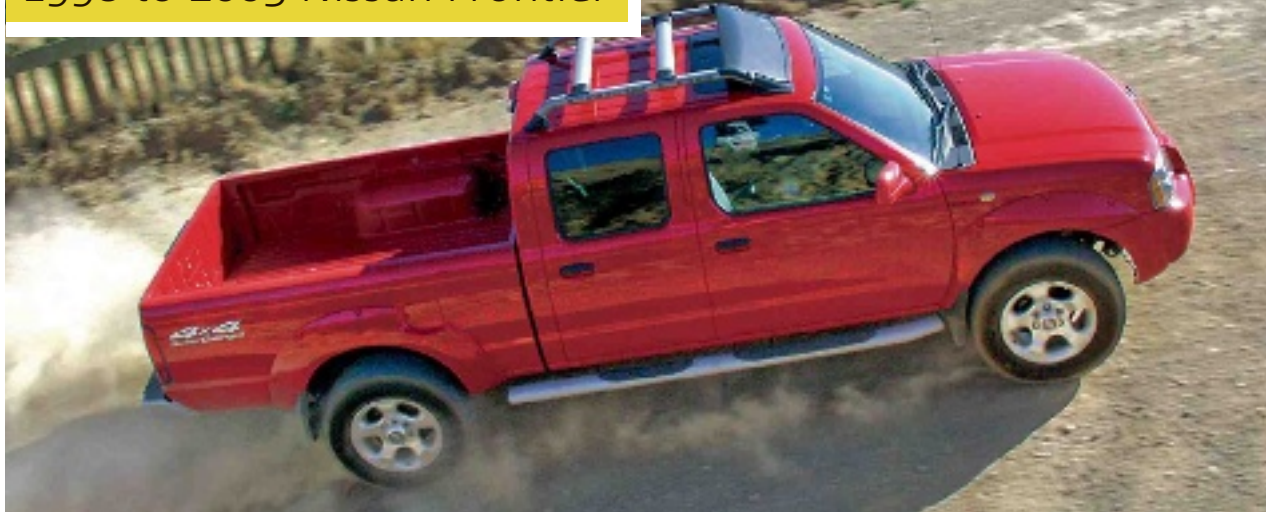
JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

The Nissan Frontier began moving into Canadian driveways as a 1998 model that replaced the Hardbody pickup family.

The Frontier offered more selection and power, and intended to move the brand's small pickup heritage forward.

A compact truck intended to battle the Ford Ranger, Dodge Dakota, Chevrolet Colorado and Toyota Tacoma, Frontier packed plenty of selection and capability.

1998 to 2005 Nissan Frontier



Engine

Look for a 2.4-litre, 143-horsepower four-cylinder on earlier models, as well as a 3.3-litre V-6 with 170 horsepower, or a supercharged variant thereof, producing 210 ponies. Frontier's four and six-cylinder engines could both be teamed with manual or automatics.



What owners like

Existing Frontier owners are big-time into the styling of their machines, as well as their real-world workability. Many owners report satisfaction with overall comfort and off-road capability, too.



What owners dislike

Common complaints include modest power output from the four-cylinder engine and some low-budget interior trim pieces. Additionally, many owners confirm that the Frontier's interior space is on the compact side.



Common issues

Be sure all interior accessories are working and ensure you're able to shift in and out of four-wheel drive modes as outlined in the owner's manual with no undue fuss. While underneath, look for any oily fluid leaking from the bottom of the engine, the differential and the transfer case, if so equipped.

Ultimately, numerous pages of reports from Frontier owners online looked encouraging. Words like "dependable" and "excellent" came up frequently.

Verdict

A visit to your Nissan mechanic is in order for an inspection if you're uncomfortable beneath the truck. Your dealership can also determine if any recall work may be outstanding.

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*Ratings of "Good" are the highest rating awarded for 40-mph frontal offset, 31-mph side-impact and 20-mph rear-impact crash tests conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). A "Good" rating obtained in all three crash tests plus a "Good" rating in new roof strength testing and the availability of Electronic Stability Control (ESC) (Vehicle Dynamics Control) achieves a 2011 Top Safety Pick. *Based on ALG's 2011 Residual Value Award for Best Mainstream Brand. **When you purchase, lease or finance a new 2012/2011 Forester, you will receive a \$500 holiday bonus which can be applied towards options, accessories, down payment or monthly payments on an eligible 2012/2011 Forester at the time of purchase, lease or finance. Credits are inclusive of applicable taxes and will be applied, as applicable, to relevant monthly lease or finance payment or purchase price at dealership. Offer applies to vehicles delivered on or before January 4, 2012. All current stackable consumer cash incentives have been applied to the lease offers, dealer contribution may be required. *MSRP of \$25,995 on 2012 Forester 2.5X (CJ1 X0). Lease for \$298 a month for 24 months with \$2,495 down. 2.9% lease rate. \$3,158.34 due at signing. Option to purchase at end of lease is \$18,795. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI (\$1,595), Air Tax (\$100), Tire Stewardship Levy (\$29.20), OMVIC Fee (\$5), Dealer Admin (\$199). Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. \$0 security deposit. Model shown: 2011 Forester 2.5X Convenience Package (BJ2 CP). MSRP of \$28,095. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year, with excess charged at \$0.10/km. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TCCI. Other lease and finance rates and terms available; down payment or equivalent trade-in may be required. Vehicle shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers available until January 4, 2012. See your local Subaru dealer for complete program details.

Top Gear

PHOTOS BY WHEELBASE



Many people admit to driving while drowsy, or have actually closed their eyes for a few seconds (or more) while behind the wheel.

According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), fatigue is the cause of nearly 17 per cent of all driving-related deaths. To combat this serious issue, ASP Technology of Denmark has developed a dash-mounted, battery-operated sensor.

The Anti Sleep Pilot is designed to monitor conditions that might indicate fatigue, such as operator reaction times, vehicle movements, time of day and other pre-programmed inputs.

It then issues both sound and flashing-light alerts before the driver actually falls asleep, and not after as some factory-installed systems will do. The device sells for \$250 US. antisleppilot.com.



It's easy to lose one or more of the tire caps that attach to your vehicle's valve stems, especially if you regularly check or adjust tire pressures. Fix the problem once and for all with a set of No Loss Tire Caps. This product was originally designed for NATO military vehicles and will help maintain tire pressure even if the valve core fails. And because they're made of brass (instead of

aluminum) they won't warp or corrode or seize up due to road salt or moisture. But most importantly, the retaining strap on each No Loss Tire Cap prevents it from getting lost or forgotten in a jacket or pants pocket (the manufacturer claims the strap is strong enough to withstand 130 km/h speeds when not screwed onto the stem). extremeoutback.com.

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‡Comparison based upon Natural Resources Canada's estimated highway fuel economy for all 2011 AWD vehicles. †It is possible to travel up to 1,000 km on one tank of fuel based on manufacturer-estimated fuel economy of 5.5L/100 km (highway) for a 2012 Subaru Impreza equipped with continuously variable automatic transmission and a 55L fuel tank capacity. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving conditions, driver habits and vehicle load. *MSRP of \$19,995 on 2012 Impreza 2.0i 4-door (CF1 BP). MSRP of \$20,895 on 2012 Impreza 2.0i 5-door (CG1 BP). Models shown: 2012 Impreza 2.0i Limited Package 4-door (CF1 LP). MSRP of \$25,895. 2012 Impreza 2.0i Sport Package 5-door (CG1 SP). MSRP of \$24,795. Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. \$0 security deposit. Dealers may sell for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Vehicles shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. See Subaru Outaouais or visit subaruoutaouais.com for complete program details.

Mazda takes a rotary break

AUTO PILOT



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Mazda didn't invent the rotary engine. Felix Wankel did that in Germany in 1957. But no other automaker, individual, or concern, poured their heart, soul and mind into the rotary engine concept as did the Japanese company from Hiroshima. Mazda bet heavily on the

technology, but soon found the going tough.

Legend has it, that the 47 men who comprised the company's Rotary Research Division toiled 24-7 over many months to overcome every obstacle in their way.

The number 47 has special significance in Japan. All countrymen know the story of the 47 Samurais in feudal Japan who revenged their dishonoured lord after years of hardship.

Mazda's 47 Samurais also fought for honour, the engineering honour of their company and country.

In 1967, Mazda's rotary engine got its first "serial production car" assignment — the Cosmo Sport.

Cosmo's twin-rotor engine has two 491 cc chambers, and spins out 110 hp



► The 2012 model year will be the last for Mazda's RX-8.

at 7,000 r.p.m. The low-volume two-seat, sports coupe was only produced for a couple of years, but looked fetching, and set the tone for Mazda's seminal rotary-engine sports coupes: three generations of the RX-7, and then the RX-8. In 2010, Mazda had to pull RX-8 from the European market after it failed to meet that jurisdiction's emission standards. With another year of

small and waning sales in 2011, the writing was on the wall for the RX-8's departure from other markets — including North America, and now Japan.

Model-year 2012 will be the very last for the RX-8, and the only 2012 models to be had will be 1,000 "Spirit R" models built exclusively for the Japanese market. Mazda has had a rotary engine car in its

Japanese lineup since that 1967 Cosmo. So that streak is done like dinner, kaputt, finis. (I would have liked to throw a Japanese phrase in there too, but my Japanese is limited to food court selections... teriyaki, udon noodles, sashimi, etc.).

Where Mazda goes with rotary technology is anybody's guess. Mazda has always maintained that the rotary engine is particularly

suited for hydrogen fuel, and has developed several hydrogen-rotary projects, including the RX-8 Hydrogen RE.

There are reports that Mazda has a new rotary engine in development, code-named 16X, but the company is not saying very much about it.

For now the company based in Hiroshima seems very focused on SkyActive — a series of technologies for the internal combustion engine. It's always a little sad when good things come to an end. But stay strong my friends.

Better to cry for Argentina than the rotary... Because the betting money is on Mazda resurrecting the rotary engine at some point in the future.

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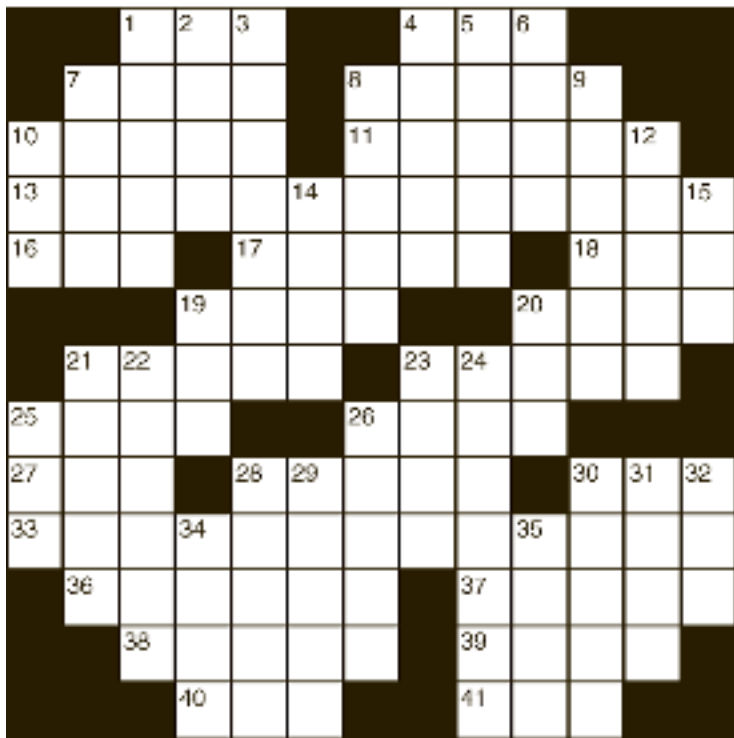
Crossword

Across

- 1 Suitable
4 Young boxer?
7 Litigious sort
8 Middle Eastern dish
10 Bethlehem's region
11 Ball game segment
13 New Orleans neighborhood
16 Barbie's companion
17 Hosiery shade
18 Shaft of light
19 "An Inconvenient Truth" narrator
20 Enticement
21 Chris of tennis lore
23 19th President
25 Leave out
26 Cartoonist Goldberg
27 Help
28 Inscribed pillar
30 "Suburgatory" ailer
33 Ice cream flavor
36 Evening affair
37 Sorrow
38 Slow critter
39 Ear-related
40 Spring mo.
41 A Bobbsey twin

Down

- 1 Poet W.H.
2 Hammerhead part
3 Farm vehicle
4 Piece of cheese-cake?
5 Arm bones
6 Twosome



- 7 Confident
8 Sharp irritation
9 False
10 NYC airport
12 Toothed wheels
14 Rodgers partner
15 "Catcher in the —"
19 Obtain
20 Caustic solution
21 Eastern potentates
22 "America's Funniest Home —"
23 Island dance
24 Desert
25 LummoX
26 Carouse
28 Discard
29 Alternative to "his/her"
30 Texas Hold 'em declaration
31 United nations
32 Automobile
34 1942 vessel
35 Tittle

► Yesterday's answer



Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You may find it hard to get a straight answer out of certain people over the next 24 hours.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Someone's dishonesty may shock you greatly, but you really should have noticed it before. Open your eyes.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 A colleague may be too vocal in his or her criticism, but there's an element of truth in what is said.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 If you take on too much, you will sooner or later reach a point where it starts to go wrong.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 Don't let anyone talk you out of doing something on which you have your heart set. You know it'll work.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Someone in a position of power may be critical of your work today but don't let it get to you. Maybe he or she has a valid point.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 This is one of those times that if you let negative events get to you, your mood could be darkened for days.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Yes, much may be falling apart — but much more still works beautifully.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Push ahead with your plans today, even though others say you are aiming way too high.
♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You're too negative in your outlook. Don't let it get out of hand.
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You should seek assistance from people whose knowledge about specific topics is superior to yours.
♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Someone will deceive you today. Keep your annoyance to yourself. Revenge is a dish best served cold.
● SALLY BROMPTON

Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►

4	5	8	7	6	9	2	1	3
1	6	2	8	3	5	7	4	9
3	9	7	1	4	2	8	5	6
6	4	3	5	2	8	9	7	1
8	7	1	4	9	6	3	2	5
9	2	5	3	7	1	6	8	4
2	3	4	6	5	7	1	9	8
7	1	6	9	8	4	5	3	2
5	8	9	2	1	3	4	6	7

Today

2°/0°
Variable

Thursday

8°/-8°
Rain
90%

Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
©The Weather Network 2011

Caption contest



"Thanks to PETA Santa had to find other means of transportation."
ELOV

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Sonu,
Happy birthday!! Raise the ROOF :) soo cute...hope you have an amazing birthday!!! <3 COCO

ryan, you mean the world to me, i feel lucky to be with you. i love you. **YOUR ALWAYS**

Niko, Hi, babe i just want to say how happy i am to be with you, you're the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. I love you. Happy anniversary. :)

SHOWSTOPPER

Robbie-Bear
to my husband of just over 4 months, and my best friend of more...no I don't think you're too intense, I will always appreciate your loves. We just need to allow each other room to grow together in marriage. Hope you are having a good day at McD's. **BOOBSTRESS**



WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.



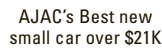
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